AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently Amended) A semiconductor diffusion prevention structure, comprising:
 - a silicide layer formed on a semiconductor substrate; and
- a ternary phase layer formed on said silicide layer, wherein the ternary phase layer is formed of Co, Si and a metal which is selected from a group consisting of Ti, \underline{Sn} , Ta, W, V, Cr, Mn, Zr, Mo and Hf.
 - 2-4. (Cancelled)
 - 5. (Currently Amended) A semiconductor device, comprising: a semiconductor substrate;
- an insulator film formed on said substrate to define a contact hole such that said substrate is exposed;
- a silicide layer formed on said substrate and bottom of said contact hole;
- a ternary phase layer formed on said silicide layer, wherein said ternary phase layer is formed of Co, Si and a metal which is selected from a group consisting of Ti, \underline{Sn} , Ta, W, V, Cr, Mn, Zr, Mo and Hf;

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a conductive plug on said diffusion prevention layer in said contact hole; and

- a conducting layer on said conductive plug.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The semiconductor device of claim
- 5, further comprising:
- a first metal film formed on sidewalls of the contact hole; and
 - a second metal film formed on the first metal layer.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The semiconductor device of claim 6, wherein the first metal film is a Co film.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The semiconductor device of claim 7, wherein the second metal film is one selected from a group consisting of a Ti film, a Ta film, a W film, a V film, a Cr film, a Mn film, a Zr film, a Mo film and a Hf film.